

# Unified Command News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Coast Guard continues Cooper River Oil Spill cleanup**

The Coast Guard will continue attacking the Cooper River Oil Spill on a number of fronts today:

- Crews are investigating tar balls that washed up on Edisto Beach yesterday to see if they came from the same source as oil in the Cooper River. Contractors will work today to remove the tar balls. Samples from that oil have been sent to the Coast Guard's Marine Safety Lab in Groton, Conn. for analysis.
- More than 1,000 gallons of oil have been removed. The Coast Guard estimates more than 2,000 gallons of oil were spilled. Clean up crews will continue to use high-pressure hoses, small boats, containment booms, oil skimmers, and absorbent pads to remove free floating and shoreline oil today. Other crews will focus on removing oil from the hulls of boats in marinas on the river.
- Investigators expect to receive more results today from oil samples taken last week as they seek to find the source of the spill.
- Workers from Tri-State Bird Rescue and Research will continue to capture and clean oiled wildlife including five birds captured over the past two days.
- To date the oil spill response has cost more than \$600,000.

To file a financial claim as a result of the Cooper River Oil Spill, call the National Pollution Funds Center at 1-800-280-7118.

To report oiled wildlife please contact South Carolina Dept. of Natural Resources at 1-800-922-5431.